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**ANNFIELD PLAIN  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

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**Medical Officer's Report.**

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**For YEAR 1910.**

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STANLEY,

FEBRUARY 25th, 1911.

GENTLEMEN,—

In the following report, I have endeavoured to give you the main facts from notes which I have received, as owing to the death of the Medical Officer of Health, I have not the verbal information which would enable me to enlarge upon some of the main points, namely, in respect to (i) the Factory and Workshops' Act, (ii) the Sanitary State, (iii) the Amount of Sickness due to Zymotic Diseases, and (iv) Vital Statistics for the year 1910. Although all factories, trades and general sanitary condition of the inhabitants come under the supervision of your Council, the coal mines, upon which the district is practically dependent, are governed by their own special Acts. In spite of certain trades' disputes, the year has been a fairly prosperous one for the district, the assistance of your Board never having been required.

#### FACTORY and WORKSHOPS' ACT.

Under this Act, the M.O.H. and Inspector must see that the Ventilation of the various work-places is adequate, that means of exit are easy, that there is no overcrowding, and that there are the necessary sanitary additions. In the district, there are nine Factories and twenty-two Workshops. On inspection, they were found to be carried on in a satisfactory manner, and in only one instance was there cause for complaint, and this is now being remedied. No material injurious to health is used in any of the above works.

#### SURVEYOR'S and INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT.

NEW HOUSES. The new houses erected and occupied during the course of the past year were 191 in number, consisting of 185 self-contained and six double tenemented. Of the total number, 55 had not less than five rooms, and 142 had three or four rooms each. 76 of the houses were provided with water-closets, the remainder having ash-closets adapted for frequent cleansing.

OLD PROPERTY. The number of old houses closed during the year made a total of 22, the majority being wooden erections. Some of the worst of the old property has been brought before your Council's notice during the year and repairs effected in several instances.

**WESTON'S HOUSES.** Considering the state of these houses, the only possible course has been taken and they will be demolished

**BEATTIE'S HOUSES.** Out of this block of 7 houses, 2 have been closed and in the case of the others, repairs are being effected

**WILKINSON'S BUILDINGS.** Extensive repairs have been done to two houses here, and they have been made into one house, which is in a very fair condition. Of the three houses opposite, belonging to the South Medomsley Colliery Company, two have been closed.

**EDWARDS' COTTAGES.** The two houses which were in a very bad state, have been closed.

**DOWLAIS COTTAGES.** Ten of these houses have received extensive repairs and have been greatly improved, also, ash-closets have been provided for each tenant. There are still 7 remaining to be done and the repairs here are in suspension.

**DIPTON WOOD HOUSES.** Eight of these houses are to be closed forthwith, and arrangements have been made with the Owners regarding 29 others, to close them over a period of five years. The old properties at Flint Hill, Hill Top, Dipton and Kyo are all receiving attention.

(1) The number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Housing Town Planning, &c. Act, 1909...	104
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(2) The number of dwelling houses which on inspection, were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	93
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(3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders ...	93
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(4) The number of closing orders made ...	20
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(5) The number of dwelling houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders ...	2
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(6) The number of dwelling houses which after the making of closing orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation ...	6
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(7) A general character of the defects found to exist...	Dampness, lack of ventilation, and general delapidation.
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**OUT-OFFICES.** There are in the district 327 water closets, 974 ash closets, and 1376 privy ashpits. In 23 cases, ash closets have been substituted for privy ashpits, and a water closet in one instance.

During the year, 170 Notices were served in respect to nuisances.

**SEWAGE.** Practically the whole of the district is well sewered, the two out-fall works being situated at Dipton and Kyo. The extension at the Kyo works to deal with the increased population of that district, is nearing completion, and three new filters, &c., will shortly be at work. The Dipton extension is now completed with satisfactory results.

**SCAVENGING and REMOVAL of REFUSE** This is done by contract under the supervision of your Inspector, and is carried out in a satisfactory manner. The contracts provide for weekly cleansing and the deposit of refuse creates no nuisance.

**SLAUGHTER HOUSES.** They are 10 in number. Inspection shewed that they are well conducted and in compliance with the bye-laws. There is no Inspector with a certificate for Meat Inspection. No Tuberculosis in meat was discovered

**MILK SUPPLY.** There are 17 cow keepers, and 24 milk purveyors. The former being either farmers or tenants of land. The cows cannot be classified as entirely stall-fed.

**WATER SUPPLY.** The Consett and Weardale Water Company supply the district with water of excellent quality.

The three **LODGING HOUSES** in the district are kept in fairly good condition.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The number of cases of notifiable diseases reported during the past year reached a total of 157, and consisted of the following, viz., 121 of Scarlatina, 19 of Diphtheria, 6 of Enteric Fever, and 11 of Erysipelas.

**SCARLATINA** There was a large increase in the number of cases reported, compared with the previous year. 121 cases were reported as against 80 for 1909. The disease never assumed epidemic form. No doubt, compulsory removal to the Hospital, in cases where complete isolation is not possible at home, would have had a beneficial effect

**DIPHThERIA** shewed a slight increase in the number of cases. The mortality was light.

**ENTERIC FEVER** There was a marked decrease in the number of cases, only six being reported as against twelve for the previous year. The source of infection could not be traced.

Of the 146 cases suitable for hospital treatment, 93 were removed to that Institution.

## NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

**MEASLES.** There was no serious outbreak of Measles, although it was present more or less during the whole year, and resulted in 4 deaths.

**WHOOPIING COUGH.** There were a few isolated cases, but none ended fatally.

**DIARRHŒA and EPIDEMIC ENTERITIS** were prevalent as usual during the summer months, and resulted in 5 deaths.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births and deaths registered during the year amounted to 574 of the former, and 204 of the latter, giving a birth-rate of 33·96, and a death-rate of 12·07 per 1,000, estimating the population at the end of June at 16,900. As compared with the County, your district has a slightly lower birth-rate and a considerably lower death-rate. Compared with last year, for the district, they are both lower. Infantile mortality rate is lower than that of the previous year, and considerably below the average for the county

The following table shows how the various rates of this district compare with those of the county.

			County.	Annfield Plain.		
Birth-rate	(per 1,000 population)		...	34·4	...	33·96
Death-rate	"	"	...	15·1	...	12·07
Zymotic death-rate	"	"	...	1·62	...	0·77
Infantile Mortality	(per 1,000 births)		...	126	...	109·75
Small-Pox	(per 1,000 population)		...	nil	...	nil
Scarlet Fever	"	"	...	0·08	...	0·05
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	"	"	...	0·17	...	0·05
Enteric Fever	"	"	...	0·09	...	0·05
Measles	"	"	...	0·20	...	0·23
Whooping Cough	"	"	...	0·25	...	nil
Diarrhœa & Epidemic Enteritis	"	"	...	0·81	...	0·29
Phthisis	"	"	...	0·88	...	0·65
Other Tubercular Diseases	"	"	...	0·65	...	0·88
Acute Respiratory Diseases	"	"	...	2·42	...	2·07

For further Particulars, see Government Schedules attached.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

**E. BENSON,**

Medical Officer pro. tem

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,  
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Table 1.

## ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT.

## Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSITU- -TIONS IN THE DIS- -TRICT.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of residents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BE- LONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number	Rate.
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births register- ed.	Number	Rate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1900	12,300	472	39	85	180	223	18			6	229	18.5
1901	12,500	523	41.8	86	162.5	229	18.3				229	18.3
1902	12,700	523	40	79	151	210	16.5			12	222	17.5
1903	13,100	510	38.9	89	174.5	232	17.7			13	245	18.7
1904	13,500	524	38.4	83	158.4	238	17.6			11	249	18.5
1905	14,000	485	34.6	94	193.8	213	15.2			10	223	15.9
1906	14,600	533	36.5	97	181.9	233	15.9			8	241	16.5
1907	15,200	514	33.8	73	142	210	13.8			21	231	15.2
1908	15,800	582	36.83	83	142.6	222	14.04			21	243	15.31
1909	16,200	584	36.05	66	113.01	200	12.34			18	218	13.46
Averages for years												
1900-1909.	13,990	525	37.58	83	159.97	221	15.93			11	233	16.78
1910	16,900	574	33.96	63	109.75	187	11.07			17	204	12.07

Area of District in acres  
(exclusive of area  
cover by water) } 3475

Total population at all ages 12,481

Number of inhabited houses 2,271

Average number of persons per house 5.5

} At Census  
of 1901.

**Table III.**

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							No. of cases removed to hospital from each locality.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upward	
Small-pox ...								
Cholera ..								
Diphtheria (in- cluding Mem- branous croup)	19		2	11	5	1		8
Erysipelas ..	11		1	1	1	6	2	
Scarlet fever ...	121	2	32	80	4	3		79
Typhus fever...								
Enteric fever...	6			1	3	2		6
Relapsing fever								
Continued fever								
Puerperal fever								
Plague ...								
Totals ...	157	2	35	93	13	12	2	93

Isolation Hospital at Tanfield.

Total available beds 70.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 4 or 5.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—  
Nil.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—  
Lanchester Union, County Asylum.  
Tanfield Hospital. Maiden Law Sanatorium.

Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities  
in the District—NIL.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.



Table IV.

## ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT.

## Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1910.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of Residents or non- Residents in Public Institu- tions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up- wards	
Small-pox ... ..								
Measles ... ..	4	1	3					
Scarlet fever ... ..	1			1				
Whooping-cough ... ..								
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup ... ..	1					1		
Croup ... ..								
Fever { Typhus ... ..								
{ Enteric ... ..	1				1			
{ Other contin'd ... ..								
Epidemic influenza ... ..								
Cholera ... ..								
Plague ... ..								
Diarrhœa ... ..	5	2	2			1		
Enteritis ... ..	4	3				1		
Gastritis ... ..	1	1						
Puerperal fever ... ..								
Erysipelas ... ..	1						1	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	11				2	8	1	
Other tubercular diseases ... ..	15	6	6	3				
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	9					7	2	
Bronchitis ... ..	15	6	2			3	4	
Pneumonia ... ..	19	8	6	1		2	2	
Pleurisy ... ..								
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs ... ..	1					1		
Alcoholism ... ..								
Cirrhosis of liver ... ..	2					1	1	
Venereal diseases ... ..								
Premature birth ... ..	7	7						
Diseases and accidents of parturition ... ..	4				1	3		
Heart diseases ... ..	16				4	8	4	
Accidents ... ..	8		1	1	2	3	1	
Suicides ... ..								
All other causes ... ..	79	30	4	1	4	24	16	
All causes ... ..	204	64	24	7	14	63	32	

E. BENSON, *Medical Officer of Health.* (pro tem).

February 25th, 1911.

**Table V.**

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diphtheria : Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diarrhœa all forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gastro-enteritis,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	...	6	1	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Congenital Defects	...	4	2	...	6	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Want of Breast-milk, Starvation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Marasmus)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes.	Tabes Mesenterical,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Tuberculous Diseases)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes.	Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> )	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Suffocation, overlaying...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			11	1	6	2	20	7	5	6	7	6	4	1	1	3	2	2	6

Births in the year	{	legitimate	556	Deaths in the year of	{	legitimate infants	59
		illegitimate	18			illegitimate „	5

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

**1. INSPECTION.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.		Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories ... ..	9	18	Nil.	Nil.
(Including Factory Laundries)				
Workshops ... ..	22	44		
(Including Workshop Laundries)				
Workplaces ... ..				
Total ... ..		62		

**2. DEFECTS FOUND.**

Sanitary Accommodation—Insufficient 1. (In hand).

**3. HOME WORK.**

Nil.

**4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.**

Factories 9, Workshops, 22. Total 31.

**5. OTHER MATTERS.**

Notified by H.M. Inspector, 1. Report, in hand.

E BENSON, *Medical Officer of Health.* (pro tem).

February 25th, 1911.





